

Radio

RADIO EXCELS IN RESCUE

By NEA Service.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 22.—The air is celebrating its greatest victory over the sea.

Radio has just played its most elaborate role. Fire at sea, which consumed the palatial South Sea liner City of Honolulu save to the radio its greatest chance. That 217 persons should have been rescued unscathed can be credited to the voice in the air.

To the list of names of those "last to leave" a burning ship, may be added that of Walter P. Bell, wireless operator on the City of Honolulu. Bell stayed at his instrument until every possible message had been sent and answered and he was bringing rescue ships from half a dozen points. Bell had already written a record of valor in the war.

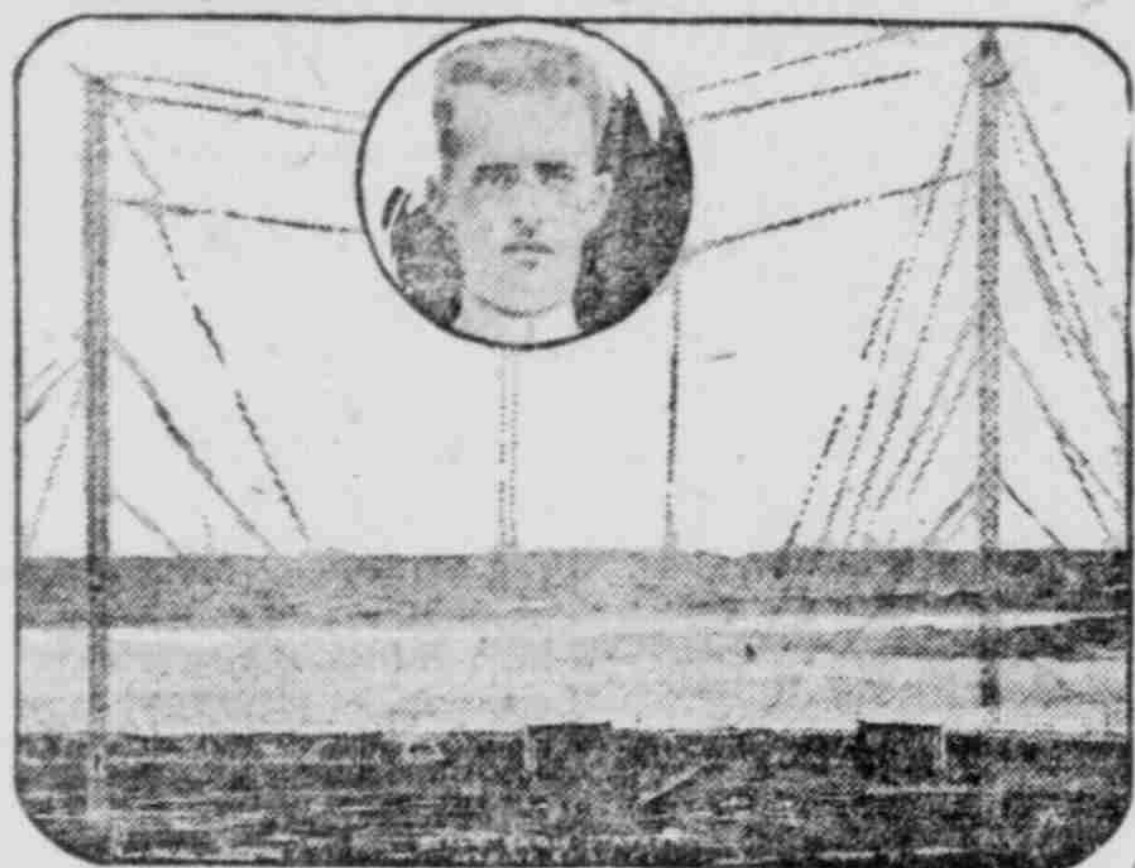
Achievements. There are stories of new achievements to tell in connection with this rescue.

For the first time continuous communication was maintained with a ship in distress. This was made possible through use of the system of transmission known as the Federal arc, which played a part in the great war.

For the first time a land station picked up where the first ship left off, directing the hundreds of miles away at sea by means of maps and charts.

For the first time the air turned "reporter" and newspapers completely covered a story without a human reporter within 600 miles. Interviews were obtained. Newspaper men questioned passengers and crew and secured signed stories—all by radio.

The major portion of the land work fell to the federal wireless station here. But for the using activity of their operators the small boats of the doomed vessel might have floated about for days and



Walter P. Bell, radio operator of the City of Honolulu, and the federal wireless station at San Francisco from which the rescue was directed.

deaths resulted.

The Rescue.

First word of the raging fire reached H. E. Coyle, chief operator for the federal concern. It was about 5 o'clock in the morning. Coyle knew that operators on most ships would be asleep. The City of Honolulu was running in the Honolulu-Los Angeles sea lane. Any ship that might be reached, it was known, would be running in the Honolulu-San Francisco lane.

Coyle had heard the air ear that the U. S. transport Thomas and the steamer Enterprise were going to the aid of the burning ship, but they were at least 240 miles away. He knew that W. P. Bell, operator on the City of Honolulu, had picked up a continuous communication until the last possible moment.

Maps and charts of the sea lanes

might hold an answer. Conferences with shipping men showed that, with any luck, the steamer West Paralone should be nearby. This boat carries but one operator. He was asleep.

All through the night the West Paralone did not answer. In the morning the "air" found her. The West Paralone was nearby, as distances go at sea. A matter of 200 miles in travel had been gained and the helpless survivors saved from hardship and death. Also all vessels had been constantly informed on points of latitude and distance.

It was the air's greatest victory—one to be written alongside the rescue by the Battle of the 1650 passengers and crew of the Republic. But the radio has put on many trials since then, which made its latest showing even more spectacular.

slouched toward him. Smith laid aside his pack and rifle, and as Salzar came up, he quietly took his weapon from him and laid it beside his own.

"What-a da matt?" demanded Salzar, astonished. "Why you tak-a my gun?"

Smith measured him. They were well matched.

"Set your torch in that crotch," he said.

Salzar, puzzled and impatient, demanded to know why. Smith took both torches, set them opposite each other and drew Salzar into the white glare.

"Now," he said, "you dirty desperado, I am going to try to kill you clean. Look out for yourself!"

For a second Salzar stood rooted in blank astonishment.

"I'm one of Clinch's men," said Smith, "but I can't stick a knife in your back at that! Now, take care of yourself if you can."

His voice died in his throat; Salzar was on him, clawing, biting, kicking, striving to strangle him, to wrestle him off his feet. Smith reeled, staggering under the sheer rush of the man, almost blinded by blows, clutched, bewildered in Salzar's panther grip.

"I feel you! I feel you! Damn! Damn!" panted Salzar, in convulsive fury as Smith freed his left arm and struck him in the face.

Now, on the narrow wet and slippery strip of rock they lay to and fro, murderously interlocked, their heavy boots splashing, battling with limb and body.

Twice Salzar forced Smith outward over the brink, trying to end it, but could not free himself.

Once too, he managed to get at a hidden knife, drag it out and stab at head and throat; but Smith caught the flat that wielded it, forced back the arm, held it while Salzar was you."

"I'll tell you, you're a lawyer," said Smith. "I'm from Sacramento in New York. I'm Abrams. The police are on their way here to find Quintana."

A movement might have meant death, but he calmly rummaged for a cigar, lit it, blew a cloud idly toward the white glare ahead. Then he took another chance.

"I guess you're Nick Salzar, aren't you?"

"S! I am Salzar. Who the dev are you?"

"I'm Eddie Abrams, Sard's lawyer. My business is to find my client. If you stop me you'll go to prison—the whole gang of you—Sard, Quintana, Plouquet, Sanchez, Georgiades and Harry Beck—and you!"

After a dead silence: "Maybe you'll go to the chair, too!"

It was the third chance he took. There was a dreadful stillness in the woods. Finally came a slight series of splashes; the crunch of heavy boots on rock.

"For why you com-a here, eh?" demanded Salzar, in a less aggressive manner. "What-a da matt, eh?"

"Well," said Smith. "If you've got to know, there are people from Esthonia in New York. . . If you understand that."

"Christ! When do they arrive?"

"A week ago, Sard's place is in the hands of the police. I couldn't stop them. They've got his safe and all his papers. City, State and Federal officers are looking for him. The Constabulary rode into Ghost Lake yesterday. Now, don't you think you'd better lead me to Sard?"

"Christ!" exclaimed Salzar. "Sard he is a mile ahead with the others. Damn! Damn! Me, how should I know what is to be done? Me, I have my orders from Quintana. What I do, eh? Christ! What to do? What you say I should do, eh, Abrams?"

A new fear had succeeded the old one—that was evident—and Salzar came forward into the light of his own fixed torch—a well knit figure in slouch hat, gray shirt, and gray breeches, and wearing a red bandanna over the lower part of his face. He carried a heavy rifle.

Smith said slowly: "If Quintana is marching on Clinch's he's marching into a trap!"

Salzar blanched above his bandanna.

"The State Troopers are there," said Smith. "They'll get him sure."

"Christ!" faltered Salzar. "Then they are gobbles—Quintana, Sard, everybody! Si!"

He glared at Smith, started to move, came back and took his torch, made a violent gesture with it which drenched the woods with goblin light.

"You stop-a Quintana, maybe. You tell a heem he is the biggest fool! You tell a heem Nick Salzar is no damn fool. No! Agios, my friend! Abrams! I beat it. I save my skin!"

"Salzar!" Smith called sharply. The man halted and looked around.

"Come back!"

Salzar hesitated, turned finally,

zar screamed at him, lunging at his face with bared teeth.

Suddenly the end came: Salzar's body heaved upward, sprawled for an instant in the dazzling glare, hurtled over Smith's head and fell into the sink with a crashing splash.

Frantically he thrashed there, spluttering and floundering in darkness. He made no outcry. Probably he had landed head first.

In a moment only a vague heaving came from the unseen ooze. Smith, exhausted, drenched with sweat, leaned against a tamarack, sickened.

After all sound had ceased he straightened up with an effort. Presently he bent and recovered Salzar's red bandanna and his hat. He lifted his own rifle and pack and struggled into the harness. Then, kicking Salzar's rifle overboard, he unfettered both torches, pocketed one, and started on in a flood of ghostly light.

RIVER PARK

Twenty-four members and several guests were present at the rally meeting of the River Park M. E. church Ladies' Aid society held Thursday at the home of Mrs. B. F. Hacker, S. Fifth st.

The meeting was opened with a short devotional service, led by Mrs. Charles Anderson, the assisting hostess, which included responsive scripture reading songs by the members and prayer by Rev. Robert Ross-Shannon. Roll call and the business session followed when plans were completed for a Halloween supper to be given at the church on Oct. 31. Luncheon was served during the social hour. The house decorations were fall flowers. The next meeting will be in two weeks with Mrs. Enos Kellow, S. Fifth st. Mrs. R. Siple will be the assisting hostess.

The Hoosier Bunco club met Thursday afternoon with Mrs. M. Wiener, River av. Three tables were filled at progressive bunco. The favors were awarded to Mrs. Emma Hoffman, Mrs. Mayma Petters and Mrs. Dora Evans. Refreshments were served following the games. The next meeting will be in two weeks with Mrs. Emma Hoffman, S. Eighth st.

The members of the Sunshine club were entertained Thursday afternoon by Mrs. G. Ravenscroft, Mishawaka av. After the business session concert was enjoyed. Favors were won by Mrs. Ruth Brundage, Mrs. Laura Cobb and Mrs. Mary Heick. A picnic supper was served. The next meeting will be held in two weeks.

Mrs. Alva Wisner entertained the Friendship club at her home, W. Mishawaka av. The afternoon was spent socially and with needle work. A two course luncheon was served.

Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Doveden, Lincoln way, were host and hostess at 7 o'clock dinner Friday in honor of their cousins, Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Banister, of Fort Wayne, Ind. Covers were laid for 19. The center piece was formed of bitter sweet and greenery. Music and cards featured the evening's entertainment. Favors were awarded to Mr. and Mrs. Yesling, Miss Doveden and Charles Maley.

W. S. Stines, president of the River Park concert band, has resigned and has organized a band, which will be known as the River Park band. W. Smith, formerly of the Mishawaka Woolen company band, will be the director of the new band, which will meet for practice each Wednesday evening at Stines Shop, 2212, Mishawaka av.

R. L. Heading has returned from Detroit, Mich.

C. S. Honk will continue as director of the River Park concert band and will meet for practice each Tuesday in the basement of the M. E. church.

Miss Dede Moorelock spent the week end with friends at Indianapolis.

Barber Cuts Kiddies' Hair 38 Years; Quits

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